

Virtual Edge Activity Planning Examples

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Here are definitions and examples for the location and schedule modes. The first table shows how one activity might be revised as it's moved into different settings. The other tables present examples of several typical activities using technology in different settings.

Synchronous Learning: Learners and facilitators work at the same time and focus on the same information.

Synchronous in-person	Synchronous hybrid setting	Synchronous virtual setting
setting		
Learners and facilitators are	Learners and facilitators are	Learners and facilitators are
in the same room at the	split among settings (some in	in the same virtual space at
same time to focus on a	the same room, others in a	the same time to focus on a
shared experience.	linked virtual setting) at the	shared experience.
Example: Students are in the	same time to focus on a	Example: The session
same physical location and a	shared experience.	convenes on a virtual
guest speaker joins them.	Example: Some students are	platform. Everyone watches
The presentation is followed	in person and some online	a recorded TED talk, then
by Q&A and discussion.	from other locations. A guest	goes into small groups in
Learners can ask questions	speaker joins by virtual	virtual breakout rooms to
aloud or text them to the	platform, and the	discuss content. Participants
facilitator using their tablets	presentation is followed by	can join the discussion using
or phones.	Q&A and discussion.	the platform's chat feature or
	Students can choose whether	by raising their hands to
	to speak aloud or submit	speak.
	comments electronically.	

Asynchronous Learning: Learners work at their own pace and often on their own schedules.

Asynchronous in-person	Asynchronous hybrid setting	A synchronous virtual setting
setting		
Learners work alone or in	Part of the time, learners	Learners work mainly in a
groups in the same room but	work at their own pace and	virtual space and
at their own pace. Facilitators	in their own space. At a	independently. Facilitators
are present to answer	designated time, they gather	may provide resources or
questions or make	in person and online as a	hold office hours to answer
suggestions.	group to process the	questions or make
Example: Students use	learning. Facilitators may	suggestions.
designated program time to	provide resources or hold	Example: Students engage in
do assigned tasks such as	office hours to answer	a WebQuest or a virtual field
homework, conduct	questions or guide the	trip from home. Using a box
independent explorations in	learning.	of program-provided
assigned resources or	Example: A week before a	supplies, each student builds
internet searches, or write in	new activity begins, students	a diorama of something
	and staff separately watch a	interesting from the



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a journal (either on paper or	short, assigned video from	WebQuest or field trip to
online).	home. The day before the	share with their peers at the
	activity starts, everyone	next synchronous session.
	meets at the program site (or	
	online) to discuss how the	
	activity will unfold.	

Instructor-Facilitated Learning: Facilitators provide direct support to help learners discover and process knowledge and skills.

Instructor-facilitated in-	Instructor-facilitated hybrid	Instructor-facilitated virtual
	•	
person setting	setting	setting
Learners and facilitators work	Learners do assigned tasks in	All tasks take place in virtual
in the same room and	person or in a virtual setting.	settings, some synchronous
interact as required by the	Facilitators provide resources	and some asynchronous.
activity they're all engaged	to support task work.	Facilitators provide some
in.		direct support and some
	Example: Facilitators	assignments. Learners get
Example: The facilitator	introduce a note-taking	practice through assigned
monitors the room to answer	strategy in a synchronous in-	resources and new
questions, guide discussions	person setting, then have	knowledge through
and provide prompts for	students practice the	independent research.
deeper exploration. Students	strategy as they pursue a	Example: Math tutors offer
take notes on paper or	reading or research	online group or one-on-one
tablets, use a whiteboard or	assignment in an	learning experiences, and
smartboard to brainstorm	asynchronous virtual setting.	then provide feedback when
together, or take digital	The learning is processed	learners complete and
photos to illustrate project	during an in-person and	submit assigned problem
materials.	virtual group discussion.	sets. Breakout rooms can
		also be used to provide
		small-group support.

Resource-Facilitated Learning: Learners use assigned or self-collected resources to discover and process new content or practice skills and knowledge.

Resource-facilitated in-	Resource-facilitated hybrid	Resource-facilitated virtual
person setting	setting	setting
Facilitators provide resources	Facilitators introduce an	Facilitators select an online
to guide learners who work	exploration (some students	resource and make
in collaborative groups to	in person, some online)	assignments for learners to
design solutions to a	around a specific academic or	complete.
problem.	other need. Learners follow	Example: The 21st CCLC
Example: Students work in	up with an assigned online	program collaborates with
groups of five or six to	exploration.	school-day teachers to select
consider ways to complete a		open education resources



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NASA Challenge. They use an on-site learning center to explore concepts related to the challenge, then use a digital tool to create a mind map and list questions they want to investigate.

Example: Students need to identify plot lines in literature. The facilitator shows a short, recorded lecture that explores the plot, then leads a brief discussion. Assigned online readings provide practice, and students process learning on an online discussion board.

(e.g., diagnostic tool and digital math tutoring program) and identifies concepts students need to master. Students complete assignments online and get feedback through the online tools. The group meets virtually to reflect and provide feedback.



